

The Barnes County Commission met in regular session on Tuesday, April 21, 2015 with Mike Metcalf, Bill Carlblom, Cindy Schwehr, John Froelich, and Rodger Berntson present. Chairman Schwehr called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m., the Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and the Agenda was reviewed.

Mike Metcalf moved to re-arrange the schedule; John Froelich seconded the motion. After further discussion, both the motion and the second were rescinded.

Jack Ertelt & Keith Colville – Wellness Center Funding

County residents Jack Ertelt and Keith Colville presented arguments opposing County funding of the Wellness Center, and requested that the County not go forward with funding the Wellness Center.

Development Corporation – Wellness Center Funding Request

Jennifer Feist, Valley City-Barnes County Development Corporation Director of Development, requested \$250,000 to assist with the Valley City Health, Wellness & Physical Education Center. Others appearing on behalf of the Wellness Center included Tisa Mason, Paige Bjornson, and Tyler Jacobson. John Froelich moved to approve up to \$250,000 over five years from Economic Development funds for the Wellness Center, \$50,000 per year, with each year requiring approval, and contingent upon the Wellness Center coming to fruition with all funding in place; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with Rodger Berntson voting “no”.

Dispatch / MIS – 911 Recorder Add-ons

Jason Thiel, MIS Director, presented information regarding possible add-ons to the 911 recording system. The total for the system including the add-on of a Raid 5 recorder chassis (\$3,625) came in at a total of \$28,839, which is less than what was previously approved.

Auditor – Minutes / Sodbuster Permit / Staffing

Mike Metcalf moved to approve the April 7, 2015 minutes; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried. Beth Didier, Auditor, presented an amended Application for a Local Permit for Sodbuster Club to add “Bingo” to their permitted games to be conducted. John Froelich moved to approve the application; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. Ms. Didier requested approval to make an offer for the open Administrative Assistant position. Mike Metcalf moved to approve hiring at a rate up to \$16.78 per hour; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Tax Director - P & Z Variance / Assessing Contracts / KLJ Bill

Betty Koslofsky, Planning & Zoning Coordinator, presented an application for a Variance for trees 150' from the road from Robert L Janish (Binghampton Township, S ½ 12-138-56). John Froelich moved to approve the application; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Ms. Koslofsky, Tax Director, presented the following assessing contract amounts for 2016: Ashtabula Township - \$2,032; Eckelson Township - \$964; Rogers Township - \$628; Dazey City - \$444; Oriska City - \$448, Pillsbury City - \$264, Sibley City - \$340, Raritan Township - \$896 and Cuba Township - \$824. Rodger Berntson moved to approve the proposed contract amounts; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

John Froelich moved to approve a bill from Kadmas, Lee & Jackson for splitting soils for the Ag values in the amount of \$4,218.62; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Building & Grounds – Courthouse Steps

Stan Horst, Building & Grounds, and Terry Sorenson, contractor, proposed repairing the remaining steps on the west and south sides of the Courthouse at an estimated total cost of \$40,180. John Froelich moved to approve the proposal; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. John Froelich made a motion to replace the mulch around the Courthouse with rock at a cost of \$3,284.50; Bill Carlblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

US Fish & Wildlife – Acquisition of Mansfield Township Property

Kurt Tompkins and Tammy Fairbanks, US Fish and Wildlife, requested approval of a land acquisition of a 49.04 acre parcel in Mansfield Township between USF&W and James Kiley. John Froelich moved to approve the request; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Highway – Road Oil Bid Opening

Mike Metcalf moved to approve the road oil bid from Flint Hills for MC3000 at \$640.96 per ton, delivered; Bill Carblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Highway – Culvert Bid Opening

Bill Carblom moved to approve the culvert bid from True North Steel for corrugated metal culvert per their price schedule; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Highway – Engineering Contracts

Shawn Mayfield, Kadmas, Lee & Jackson, presented Construction Engineering contracts for the 23 miles of paving (Fingal, Sanborn, and Litchville) at a cost of \$248,811.50 with 90% reimbursement and the Kathryn Road project at a cost of \$165,359.50 with 100% reimbursement. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the contracts; Bill Carblom seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

State’s Attorney – Detention Service Contract

Carl Martineck, State’s Attorney, presented the Detention Service Contract for renewal. Mike Metcalf moved to approve the contract with the State of North Dakota for services at a cost of \$284.98 per day for a one-year term; John Froelich seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Commission Discussion / VSO Resignation / Sheriff Storage

Mike Metcalf updated the Commission on the status of the rotunda glass repair project, as well as funding options. John Froelich proposed having a Special Meeting to discuss salaries. John Froelich proposed considering a project to improve a township road between Highways 9 and 62, and possibly entering into a Joint Powers Agreement with Stutsman County for that purpose.

John Froelich moved to accept Scott Crump’s resignation as Veterans Services Officer; Mike Metcalf seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”. The opening will be advertised, and Mike Metcalf will head the search committee.

Randy McClafin, Sheriff, requested approval to move from their current three separate storage units to a larger, single location at a cost of \$320 for 2015 and \$400 per year thereafter. Bill Carblom moved to approve the request; Rodger Berntson seconded the motion. Motion carried upon roll-call vote, with all members voting “yes”.

Department Head Meeting

The Commission thanked everyone for their participation in County Government Week. The Department Heads were asked to review their employees’ salaries, and prepare a recommendation based on comparable positions within the City of Valley City, the NDACo salary survey, or other comparable sources. The Commission would like to act on these recommendations in about a month. Proper use of the panic button system was discussed. Clerk of Court has a copier contract that possibly could be transferred to Social Services. Wanda Auka offered to share information received at leadership training with other Department Heads. MIS has been busy. Water coolers have been installed on first and third floors.

With no further business, Mike Metcalf made a motion, seconded by John Froelich, to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 11:53 am.

Cindy Schwehr, Chairman
Barnes County Commission

Beth M Didier
Barnes County Auditor